



# Exhibit C 2024 Groundfish Fisheries Regulations

Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission  
December 15, 2023  
Lynn Mattes, Marine Resources Program



Photo credit: ODFW



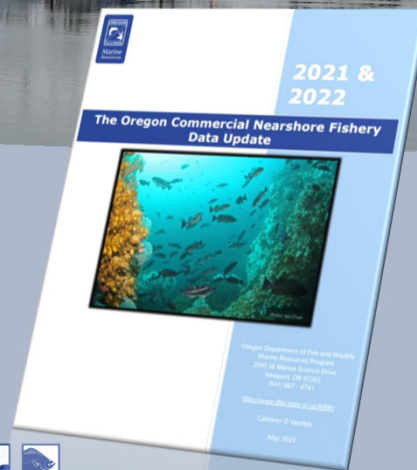
Photo credit: Lynn Mattes



# Nearshore Fishery Report



Photo credit: ODFW



- Attachment 4 is the annual report to the Commission on the commercial nearshore fishery
  - Informational
  - No Commission action





## Issue 1. Groundfish Regulations

- 2024 Federal Regulations
- State Harvest Guidelines
- Commercial Management Measures
- Recreational Management Measures



Photo credit: Lynn Mattes

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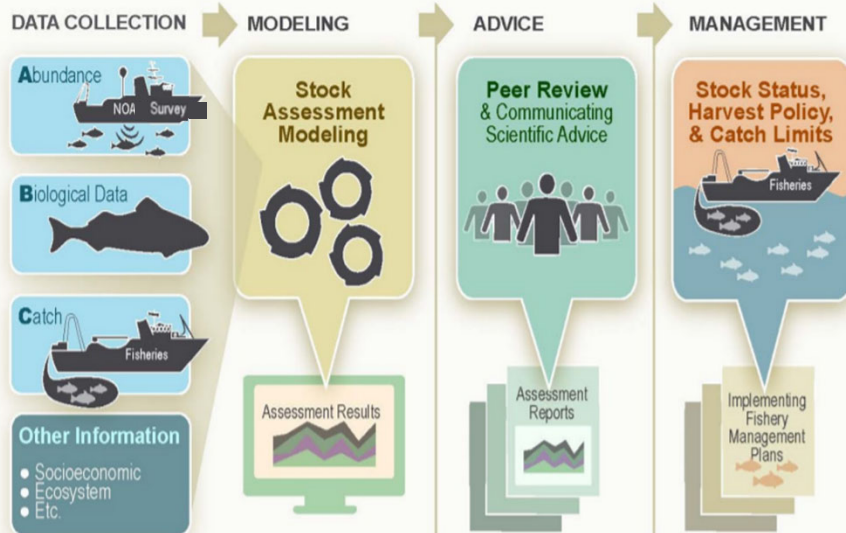
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## Setting Sustainable Groundfish Catch Limits

Federal catch limits must be set ***at or below*** sustainable long-term yield

- Buffers may be added to account for:
  - Scientific uncertainty
  - Management uncertainty



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Infographic courtesy NOAA

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## 2024 Federal Regulations



- Federal regulations are developed based on best available science
- With ODFW and public participation via
  - the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) and
  - its advisory bodies

**Staff recommend adopting the updated federal rules by reference, without modification**



Photo credit: Lynn Mattes 5

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## State Harvest Guidelines (HG)

- Federal catch limits set by PFMC
- State harvest guidelines (HG) allocate federal catch limits to:
  - Commercial
  - Recreational (includes Tribal)

Species/Mgmt. Group <i>(2024 Federal Catch Limit)</i>	Sector	Allocation %	2023 HG (mt)	Recommended 2024 HG (mt)
Black Rockfish <i>(512 mt)</i>	Commercial	24.0%	122.9	122.9
	Recreational	76.0%	389.1	389.1
Blue & Deacon Rockfish <i>(81.9 mt)</i>	Commercial	18.6%	15.7	15.2
	Recreational	81.4%	68.8	66.7
Nearshore Rockfish Complex <i>(31.3 mt)</i>	Commercial	51.3%	16.6	16.1
	Recreational	48.7%	15.8	15.2
Cabezon <i>(49.2 mt)</i>	Commercial	64.3%	32.4	31.6
	Recreational	35.7%	18.0	17.6
Greenlings <i>(131.0 mt)</i>	Commercial	75.1%	100.7	98.4
	Recreational	24.9%	33.4	32.6

**Staff recommend adopting the HGs above (right) for 2024**



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## Commercial Nearshore Management Measures



Photo credit: ODFW

### Objectives:

- Maximize opportunity while not exceeding catch limits
- Predictable, year-round season
- Accommodate seasonal market demand for Black rockfish

### Management Tools:

- Limited-entry permit system (caps total potential effort)
- Bi-monthly cumulative vessel landing limit by species (stabilizes season)
- Depth/area closures
- Species-specific prohibitions (yelloweye & quillback rockfishes)
- Gear restrictions



## 2023 Commercial Nearshore Season Recap

- Projected harvest for all species is under the state specific HG, except blue and deacon rockfish
  - No conservation concern
  - Recreational will be well below its HG
- Greenling tracked lower than average

Projected impacts through 12/31/2023:

	2023 Commercial HG (mt) (allowable harvest)	Projected Harvest (mt) (% HG)
Black Rockfish	122.9	116.9 (95%)
Blue and Deacon Rockfish	15.7	18.8 (119%)*
Cabazon	32.4	21.1 (65%)
Greenling	100.7	13.5 (13%)
Other Nearshore Rockfish	16.6	11.6 (70%)

\*Value updated from what is in table 2 in the Agenda Item Summary (Attachment 1)





## 2024 Commercial Nearshore Trip Limits

- Trip limits distribute harvest throughout the year
- Caps the amount of fish (by species) a vessel can land in each two-month period

**Staff recommend the trip limits (right) for 2024**

Species/group	2023 Initial Trip Limit (and after in-season adj.) in Pounds	Recommended 2024 Trip Limit in Pounds
Black Rockfish		
Jan - Feb	1,800	1,800
Mar - Apr	1,800	<b>2,100</b>
May - Jun	2,400	2,400
Jul - Aug	2,400 (2,700)	2,400
Sep - Oct	1,800 (2,700)	<b>2,100</b>
Nov - Dec	1,800 (2,700)	1,800
Blue/Deacon Rockfish	1,500	1,500
Other Nearshore RF	450 (650)	450
Cabazon	1,500 (2,500)	1,500
Greenling	1,200 (2,000)	1,200



## 2024 Commercial Nearshore Projected Impacts

Projected catch and HG attainment under the recommended trip limits:

Species/Group	Recommended 2024 Commercial HG (mt)	Projected 2024 Impacts (mt) (% of HG)
Black Rockfish	122.9	128.3 (104%)
Blue & Deacon Rockfish	15.2	13.5 (89%)
Cabazon	31.6	24.8 (78%)
Greenling	98.4	17.9 (18%)
Other Nearshore Rockfish	16.1	10.9 (68%)



# Recreational Management Measures



Photo credit: ODFW

### Objectives:

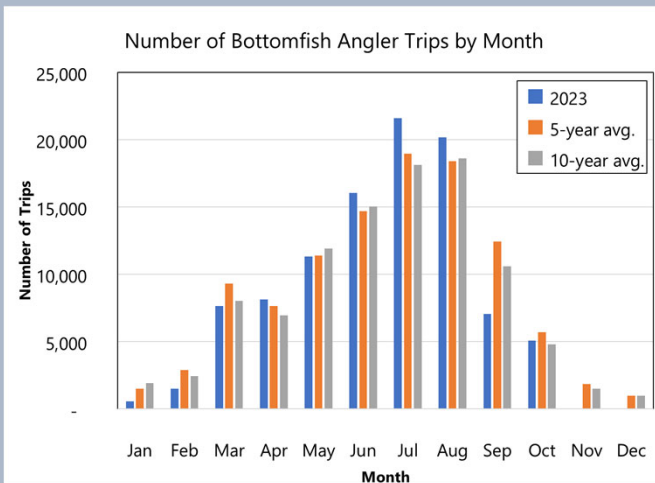
- Provide year-round fishing opportunities
- Maximize opportunity while not exceeding catch limits
- Limit inseason changes
- General marine bag limit of at least 5 fish

### Management Tools:

- Bag limits
- Depth/area closures
- Species-specific prohibitions
- Gear restrictions
- Descending device requirements



# 2023 Recreational Season Recap



### Continued high effort

- No Chinook salmon season for most of Oregon through Aug.
- Non-select coho opened Sept. 1



Photo credit: Lynn Mattes



## 2023 Recreational Season Recap

- No in-season actions were necessary in 2023 to keep impacts within HGs

### 2023 Projected impacts through 12/31/2023:

	Recreational HG (mt)	Projected Impacts in mt (% of HG)
Black Rockfish	389.1	321.8 (83%)
Blue and Deacon Rockfish	68.8	26.3 (38%)
Cabezon	18.0	12.5 (69%)
Greenling	33.4	21.7 (65%)
Other Nearshore Rockfish	15.8	15.3 (97%)



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## 2024 Proposed Bag Limits

### Staff recommend:

- **Longleader = 12 fish**,
  - select midwater species only
- **All other groundfish bag limits status quo**
  - 5 fish general marine fish bag limit
  - Cabezon = 1-fish sub bag, open July 1
  - Lingcod = 2 fish
  - Flatfish = 25 fish (except Pacific halibut)
  - No retention of yelloweye and quillback rockfish



Photo credit: ODFW



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## Recreational Groundfish Depth Restriction

Area restrictions have been used since 2004 to protect yelloweye rockfish

- Initially <30 fathoms (180 ft) April – September
- 2020-2021: <40 fathoms (240 ft) June – August
- 2022: <40 fathoms (240 ft) July – August
- 2023: No depth restrictions
- **2024: No depth restrictions**

**Staff recommended continuing no depth restriction for traditional\* groundfish fishing**

*\* Longleader and flatfish fishing are not subject to the seasonal depth restriction*



Photo credit: Lynn Mattes



## 2024 Recreational Projected Fishery Mortality

Projected catch and HG attainment under the recommended management measures:

Species/Group	Recommended 2024 Recreational HG (mt)	Projected 2024 Impacts (mt) (% of HG)
Black Rockfish	389.1	346.9 (89%)
Blue & Deacon Rockfish	66.7	21.2 (32%)
Cabezon	17.6	21.5 (122%)*
Greenling	32.6	22.0 (68%)
Other Nearshore Rockfish	15.2	13.6 (90%)





## Looking ahead to 2025



- PFMC adopted new assessments for black and canary rockfish in 2023
  - Black rockfish is "healthy", but lower than previously estimated
  - Canary rockfish is in the "precautionary zone"
  - Allowable catch for both species will be decreasing starting in 2025
- In Nov, PFMC preliminarily adopted 2025-2026 annual catch limits (below)
  - Will be finalized in June 2024

Species	2024 (mt)	2025 (mt)	2026 (mt)	% decrease 2024 to 2025
Black Rockfish (Oregon) ACL	512	344	350	-33%
Commercial HG	123	83	84	-33%
Recreational HG	389	261	266	-33%
Canary Rockfish (coastwide) ACL	1,267	571	573	-55%
Oregon recreational share	61.4	25.7	25.8	-58%



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## Summary of Staff Recommendations for Issue 1

Adopt the following changes for 2024 (Per attachment 3):

- Updated federal rules (by reference)
- Recreational and commercial harvest guidelines
- Commercial nearshore bimonthly trip limits
  - Black rockfish limits for Periods 2 and 5 increase to 2,100 lbs.
- Recreational bag limits
  - Longleader gear fishery bag limit changes to 12 fish

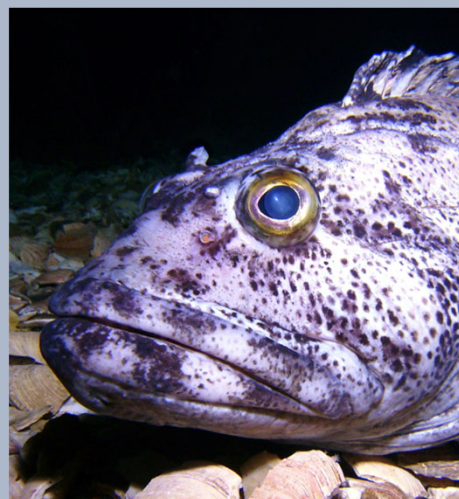


Photo credit: Brandon Ford



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## Issue 2. Territorial Sea Plan (TSP)

Ocean Policy Advisory Council recommended eight new conservation areas

- Adopted in TSP Rocky Habitat Management Strategy (2021-2023)
- Adopted by Land Conservation and Development Commission (04/20/2023)
- Approved by Secretary of State (08/02/2023)
- Adopted into sport regulations by OFWC (08/04/2023)

Six of the new areas include commercial harvest restrictions that require Commission approval

- Mostly intertidal shellfish and invertebrates
- Commercial take at scenic, rocky shoreline sites is very minor
- Little impact is expected



Ecola Point MCA  
Chapman Point MG

Cape Lookout MCA

Fogarty Creek MCA

Coquille Point MG

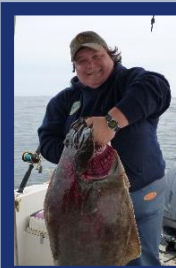
Cape Blanco MG



MCA = marine conservation area  
MG = marine garden



## ODFW Groundfish Management Staff



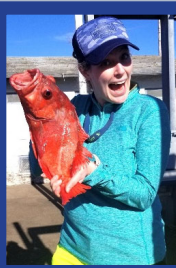
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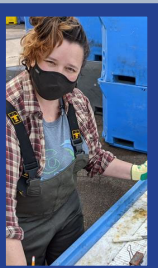
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 **Draft Motions**

**Issue 1: 2024 Groundfish Fisheries Regulations**  
I move to amend OAR Chapter 635-004-0275, OAR 635-004-0350, OAR 635-004-0355, and OAR 635 Division 39 as proposed by staff in Attachment 3.  
**Effective Date:** January 1, 2024.

**Issue 2: Territorial Sea Plan Revisions**  
I move to amend OAR Chapter 635-004-0220 and OAR 635-005-0260 as proposed by staff in Attachment 3.  
**Effective Date:** Upon filing.



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